

HEAD QUARTERS, 2677th HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
EXPERIMENTAL (PROVISIONAL)  
APO 512, U. S. ARMY

6 January 1944

SUBJECT: Commission as 2nd Lieutenant for T/Sgt. ROBERT E. LANG,  
33455619.

TO: Commanding General, Hq., MATOUSA.

1. It is respectfully recommended that T/Sgt. Robert E. Lang, 33455619, of the 2677th Headquarters Company Experimental (Provisional) be commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army of the United States.

2. Sgt. Lang has had two years experience in cryptographic work with the Office of Strategic Services. His first few months in this work were spent in working through the various departments of the main Washington Message Center, and the remainder of the time was spent as Assistant Chief of that office. He thus has a thorough grounding in OSS cipher systems and procedures. While in the Washington office he was working under a commissioned cipher expert and was himself at all times doing work ordinarily assigned only to commissioned officers. He has always displayed unusual qualities of leadership and the ability to make command decisions.

3. It is pointed out as a matter of particular importance that the use and security control of field cipher employed by this organization requires specialized experience, training, and background such as referred to in Paragraph 2. There is no available officer in this command with similar background and knowledge.

4. The communication and Message Center facilities of the 2677th Headquarters Company have been expanded many fold during recent months and it is expected that this increase will continue particularly in the matter of the establishment of advanced bases. In order to cope with increased traffic, U. S. Signal Corps cipher machines which are classified "Secret" have been installed, the supervision of which require a commissioned officer. At the present time the Signal Officer of this Headquarters Company is responsible for the entire operation and because of said expansion an officer to be directly in charge of all Message Center and cipher work and in turn responsible to the Signal Officer, this Headquarters, appears most necessary in order to insure the proper functioning of the communications facilities of this organization.

EDWARD J. F. CLAVIN,  
Colonel, Infantry,  
Commanding.

*File*  
*Lang*  
*Hq*